

MEMORANDUM

DATE:	December 21 st , 2015
FROM:	Joe Harrington
SUBJECT:	December 2015 Weekly Progress Report @ Gold King
TO:	Steven Way

Project: Gold King Interim Water Treatment Plant

Reporting Period: December 21

Location: Gladstone, Colorado

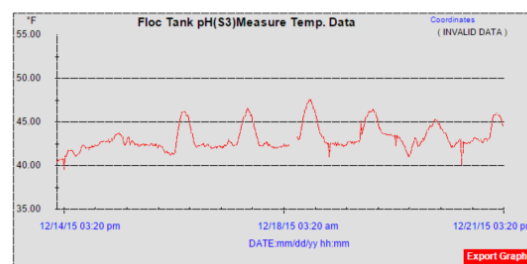
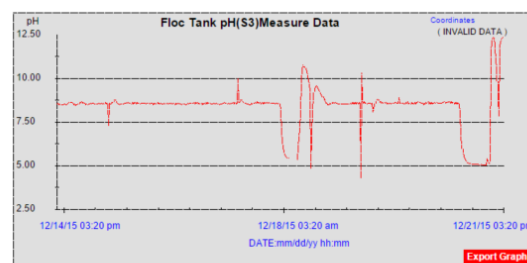
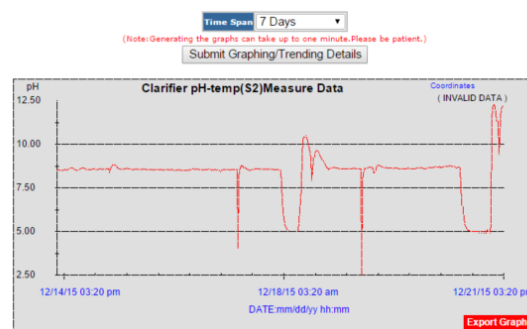
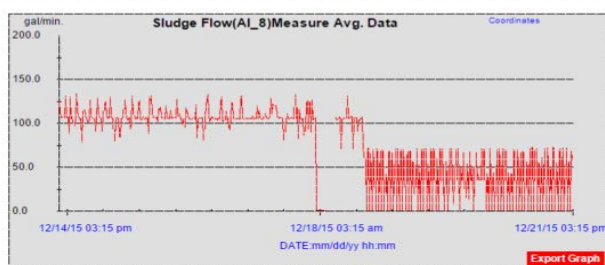
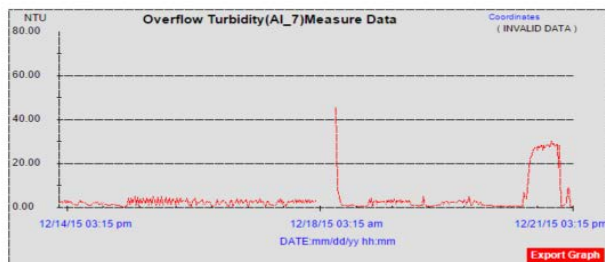
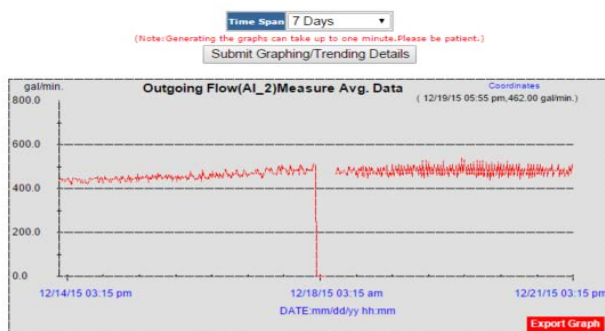
Report No.: 1

Prepared for: Emergency Response Unit – US EPA Region 8

I. General Operations Summary:

IWTS Function/Upsets

- Alexco experienced a genset failure from 5:00am to 9:00am on 12/18/2015. The on-site operators installed the backup genset to continue operations. Wagner Rents has since fixed the primary genset.
- A plug occurred on 12/21/2015 of the lime slurry pipeline which was cleared by the operator. The plugging was a result of very low dosages of lime slurry required (and no plugging was noted previous to this issue since 10/21/2015). If this issue re-occurs Alexco will substitute a narrower ID tube to ensure that line velocity is maintained from the lime slurry tank to the dosing pump.
- The following data was collected from both the Flow Circuit and Lime Circuit PLC's at the Gold King IWTP.



- Alexco reduced the duration and increased the frequency of desludging the clarifier. This resulted in a reduction of flow volume to the sludge consolidation area of 18 GPM (average) from 52GPM to 34GPM and will result in improved overall water quality (weighted average) between the discharge pipe and the expressed water from the bags.

Communication System Function Status

- Alexco has provided support to EPA with the use of up to 3 static IP addresses and a Dell SonicWALL security RF router. However, due to limited bandwidth availability of the HughesNet satellite uplink system, the Dell Router was removed to minimize interruptions of the IWTP PLC controls. EPA(ER) has asked Century Link for a quote to provide internet service to the IWTP, but status on that request is unknown.

Facility or System Related Work, including Repairs & Completions

- Precision is completing final system hookup to the grid power. In addition, Alexco will have Precision Electric make the following improvements:
 - Interior Lights, 2X Exterior Lights, Heaters, Ventilation System, other misc. improvements

II. Identified Problems, Causes, and Solutions (Planned or Implemented)

- Repeated Genset Failure: Alexco currently has three electricians at Gold King who are diligently working to transition the system to grid power with an automatic transfer switch for genset back-up.
 - The electrical inspector from Durango is scheduled to inspect the site on 12/23/2015 assuming the site is accessible (large snow storm coming this week).
 - Precision Electric has contacted San Miguel Power to schedule connection to grid power post inspection. Waiting to hear on San Miguel's availability.

III. System Inspections – Specific elements inspected and finding

IV. Site Status

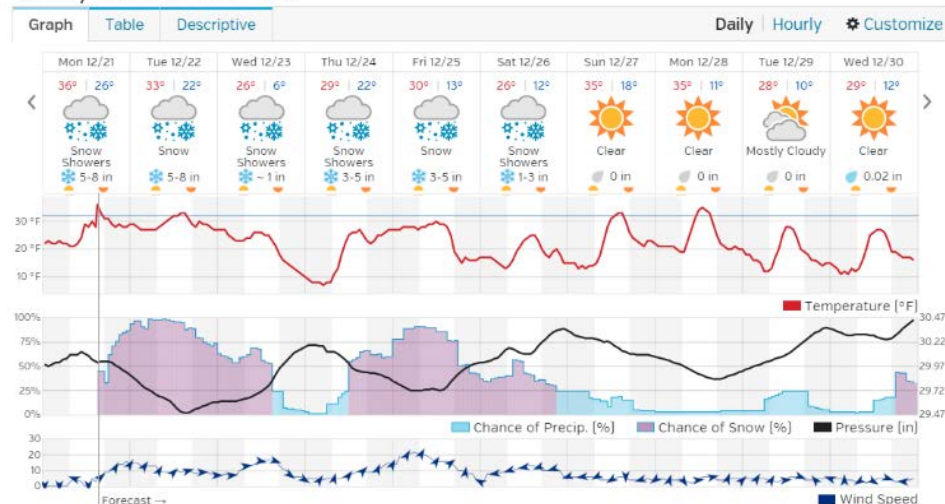
Personnel and equipment onsite

- Alexco currently employs two FTEs who live in Silverton that oversee operations at Gold King IWTP.
- Alexco has rented a skidsteer/blower (see Photo 2) to support snow removal through the winter. In addition, Alexco contacted the county and received confirmation that Alexco personnel can operate the skidsteer/blower and travel on the county roads without violating the prohibition against off-road vehicle usage.

Weather conditions

- Weather Underground Report for Silverton, CO

10-Day Weather Forecast



Site Photographs



Photo 1 – Taken 12/18/2015, view from Cement Creek towards IWTP.



Photo 2 –Alexco's snow removal equipment.



Photo 3 –Alexco's snow removal equipment in use.



Photo 4 –Taken on 12/18/2015, Alexco's genset and back-up unit.